

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00602 031828Z

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 IO-06

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INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0602

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KN, KS

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 32ND UNGA:TIMING OF CORE GROUP MEETING

1. SUMMARY: WITH CURRENT INDICATIONS BEING THAT NONALIGNED DO NOT INTEND TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON KOREAN QUESTION DURING APRIL 6-11 NEW DELHI MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING OF NONALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NACC), WE HAVE MENTIONED TO REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) OBSERVER OFFICE THAT FORMAL, SENIOR-LEVEL CORE GROUP MEETING BEFOREHAND COULD PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. WE NOTE IN CONNECTION WITH ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK'S PLANS TO HOST LUNCHEON DURING MARCH 17-23 NEW YORK VISIT FOR CORE GROUP PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT THIS LUNCHEON SHOULD SERVE AS EFFECTIVE VEHICLE TO REEMPHASIZE CORE GROUP CONTINUITY AND SOLIDARITY IN EVENT IT DECIDED NOT REPEAT NOT TO SCHEDULE SENIOR-LEVEL CORE GROUP MEETING BEFORE NEW DELHI NONALIGNED MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. ROK OBSERVER OFFICE HAS INDICATED INTEREST TO US IN CONVENING CORE GROUP MEETING DURING LATTER PART OF MARCH OR EARLY APRIL TO REVIEW SITUATION ON KOREAN QUESTION AND TO COMMENCE CONSIDERATION OF TACTICS
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00602 031828Z

FRIENDLY COUNTRIES MIGHT PURSUE REGARDING KOREA AND THE 32ND UNGA. ROK MISOFFS HAVE STRESSED SEOUL'S DESIRE TO AGAIN ACHIEVE AVOIDANCE OF UNHELPFUL, POLEMICAL UNGA DEBATE ON KOREAN QUESTION.

3. WE HAVE NOTED TO ROK OBSERVER OFFICE THAT, WITH NACC SCHEDULED TO MEET AT MINISTERIAL-LEVEL IN NEW DELHI APRIL 6-11,

AND WITH CURRENT INDICATIONS BEING THAT NONALIGNED DO NOT INTEND TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON KOREA AT NEW DELHI, IT COULD PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO HOLD FORMAL AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL CORE GROUP MEETING BEFOREHAND. WE COMMENTED THAT WORD OF FORMAL CORE GROUP MEETING WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY LEAK TO THE PRESS AND THIS COULD STIMULATE UNCONSTRUCTIVE ATTENTION TO KOREA AT NEW DELHI.

4. ROK OBSERVER OFFICE HAS LET US KNOW THAT ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK PLANS TO VISIT NEW YORK MARCH 17-23 FOLLOWING MEETINGS WITH ROK WESTERN HEMISPHERE AMBASSADORS IN MEXICO CITY. DURING HIS NEW YORK VISIT, PARK PLANS TO HOST LUNCHEON FOR CORE GROUP PERMREPS PLUS THOSE OF FRANCE AND AUSTRALIA. WE HAVE NOTED AT WORKING-LEVEL TO ROK MISOFFS THAT THIS LUNCHEON SHOULD PROVE EFFECTIVE VEHICLE TO REEMPHASIZE CORE GROUP CONTINUITY AND SOLIDARITY IN EVENT IT DECIDED NOT REPEAT NOT TO SCHEDULE CORE GROUP MEETING BEFORE NEW DELHI NACC MEETING.
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